

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Update from AdvanceKentucky

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.007, KRS 158.622, KRS 158.847, KRS 158.848, KRS 158.849, 704 KAR 3:510

History/Background:

Existing Policy. In summer 2007, the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) awarded Kentucky \$13.2 million as one of six states to create nonprofit enterprises for expanding participation and success in Advanced Placement courses in Mathematics, Science and English. NMSI is a national non-profit funded by ExxonMobil, Dell and the Gates Foundation. The Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) agreed to assume responsibility for creating and operating the nonprofit entity, called AdvanceKentucky, to facilitate Kentucky's grant. Joanne Lang, Executive Vice President of KSTC, heads AdvanceKentucky and will be at the April meeting along with Dale Fleary, Regional Director of the National Math and Science Initiative, to update the board on this work. The Kentucky Department of Education is a partner, along with support from the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Partnership for Successful Schools.

In fall 2008, the U.S. Department of Education awarded the Kentucky Department of Education the Advanced Placement Incentive Program (APIP) grant. Like the NMSI grant, this grant focuses on increasing participation and passing grades (3 or higher on the exam) in Advanced Placement courses for English, Mathematics, and Science. From this grant, Kentucky will receive approximately \$2 million over the three-year life of the grant, with approximately \$6 million in matching from NMSI funding.

In April 2008, KSTC announced the specific schools that had been chosen as AdvanceKentucky sites in Year One. The first round of exams for Cohort 1 will be administered in May 2009. An update will be provided to the Kentucky Board of Education on the work with those schools this year. AdvanceKY expects to announce 15 additional schools that will join these first 12 schools as AdvanceKentucky sites. The 27 schools are across five Kentucky Congressional Districts. A request for proposals to participate in a third round is expected to be released this spring.

At the schools, AdvanceKentucky is using the NMSI Elements of Success. This model is a proven tool that involves the initiative of allowing more students to be given the opportunity for AP classes and training, more time spent on task for students by offering weekend or after school training sessions, and rewarding both students and teachers for success on AP exams (See Attachment A).

Cohort	Number of Schools Served	Baseline MSE (Math, Science, English) AP enrollment	Baseline MSE success rate (scores of 3, 4, or 5)	MSE (Math, Science, English) AP Enrollment	MSE success rate (scores of 3, 4, or 5)	Funding Source
Cohort 1	12 schools	07/08 = 1,415	31.4%	08/09 = 2,034	TBA	NMSI
Cohort 2	15 additional schools	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	NMSI/APIP
<i>Total</i>	<i>27 schools</i>					

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

As a result of the work funded by these grants, more students, especially non-traditional AP students (students of diverse ethnicity and low-income), will be taking AP classes. This means that more students in Kentucky will be exposed to, and realizing success in, college-level course curriculum, have the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school at little to no cost, and be better prepared for success in college. The schools receiving the grant money have seen an increase in AP enrollment for the current school year and are projecting a very significant growth for the 2009-2010 school year.

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Interim Deputy Commissioner

Interim Commissioner of Education

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